

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208528
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-----006921 312218Z /66

P 312037Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY
INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY
AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CURACAO

UNCLAS STATE 208528

INFORM CONSULS, PARIS FOR NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:SOPN, UNESCO

SUBJECT: EL CARIBE INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG

REF: SAN SALVADOR 4052

1. AUGUST 15 EDITION OF EL CARIBE OF SANTO DOMINGO INCOR-
RECTLY QUOTED AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG AS SUPPORTING PROPOSAL
IN UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD HAVE LEGITIMIZED
STATE CONTROLS ON NEWS MEDIA IN INTERNATIONAL SPHERE AS A
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PAGE 02 STATE 208528

MEANS OF COMBATTING WAR PROPAGANDA, RACIALISM AND
APARTHEID. EL CARIBE EDITORIAL BASED ON THIS INACCURATE
REPORT EXPRESSED DISMAY AND WONDERED IF STATEMENT ATTRI-
BUTED TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG REFLECTED A CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY.
SIMILAR EDITORIAL APPEARED IN PRENSA GRAFICA OF SAN
SALVADOR.

2. POSTS MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN REPLYING TO QUERIES OR VOLUNTEERING COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE:

3. USG REMAINS FIRMLY OPPOSED TO STATE CONTROLS ON COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA AND WILL CONTINUE TO OPPOSE ANY DECLARATION TENDING TO LEGITIMIZE SUCH CONTROLS ON INTERNATIONAL FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION. WE REMAIN SOLIDLY COMMITTED TO ARTICLE 19 OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH AFFIRMS THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE "TO SEEK, RECEIVE AND IMPART INFORMATION AND IDEAS THROUGH ANY MEDIA AND REGARDLESS OF FRONTIERS." AT 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO IN NAIROBI LAST FALL WE VIGOROUSLY AND SUCCESSFULLY FOUGHT ADOPTION OF A DRAFT DECLARATION ON MEDIA USES, WHICH CONTAINED PROVISIONS FAVORING GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

4. DEPT HAS CONSULTED WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG, WHO LABELED THE EL CARIBE REPORT AS "INACCURATE." HE HAD VOICED APPROVAL OF A UNESCO COMMISSION FOR A BROAD STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION. USG SUPPORTS ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COMMISSION (THE SO-CALLED COMMISSION OF WISEMEN) AND ANTICIPATES ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY. (FYI: UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL IS EXPECTED TO NAME COMMISSION SOON. END FYI).

5. EL CARIBE EDITORIAL REFLECTS CONFUSION IN FAILING TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE COMMISSION STUDY AND THE EFFORT
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PAGE 03 STATE 208528

TO REDRAFT A MORE BROADLY ACCEPTABLE DECLARATION ON PRINCIPLES OF MASS MEDIA USE. UNESCO OFFICIALS HAVE EMPHASIZED THAT TWO LINES OF ACTIVITY WILL BE EXPLICITLY SEGREGATED. DEPT ENDORSES VIEW THAT TWO EFFORTS SHOULD BE KEPT ON SEPARATE TRACKS. INFO POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM DEPT IF NEWS ITEM AND/OR EDITORIAL COMMENT BASED ON EL CARIBE REPORT SURFACES IN OTHER MEDIA. CHRISTOPHER

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: FHARTLEY:LL
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770315-0675
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